

**Remarks**

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination. Previously, Applicants submitted this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed October 18, 2007, Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §41.39(b)(1).

The present amendment is being submitted in view of the Examiner's Answer mailed October 18, 2007. The Examiner's Answer included a new ground of rejection, specifically the removal of the rejection of claims 3-4.

Under 37 C.F.R. §41.39(b)(1), Applicants, submitted a reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 with an amendment within the two-month response period, ending December 18, 2007. On March 11, 2008, A Notice that the Reply Brief was not considered was mailed, asserting that the Reply Brief does not comply with 37 CFR §41.41(a).

Applicants respectfully disagree as this previous response was properly filed under 37 C.F.R. §41.39(b)(1). Regardless, Applicants seek to advance the prosecution of the present application to issuance and submit the present Preliminary Amendment with a Request for Continued Examination.

In this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 9 and 16 have been amended to recite the limitation previously recited in claim 3, wherein these elements are indicated as allowable by the Examiner in the Examiner's Appeal Brief of October 18, 2007. These amendments do not add any new matter. Specifically, claims 1, 9 and 16 are amended to recite that "the indexing act includes assigning to the token a location within the index

corresponding to part of the page being indexed that is allocated for tokens having a higher degree of importance than other tokens in the same page.”

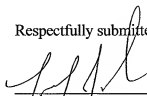
Applicants present for examination amended claims consistent with the Examiner’s indicated allowability of the elements previously recited in claim 3. In view of adding these elements to the independent claims, Applicants submit that all claims are allowable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,112,203 (“Bharat”) because Bharat fails to identically disclose, teach or suggest all of the recited claim elements, including the elements previously recited in claim 3. This position is additionally supported by the Examiner’s withdrawal of the rejection in the Examiner’s Reply Brief dated October 18, 2007.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and allowance of all the pending claims is respectfully solicited. To expedite prosecution of this application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the applicants’ undersigned representative to discuss any issues relating to the present application.

Dated: March 25, 2008

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SUBMITTED  
ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING SYSTEM on  
March 25, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Timothy J. Bechen  
Reg. No. 48,126  
DREIER, LLP  
499 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10022  
Tel : (212) 710-5949  
Fax: (212) 328-6101